[*English*]

Smuggling of Arms from Indo-Pak Border

622. SHRI CHHEDI PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge quantity of arms and ammunitions are being smuggled in India from Pakistan at Indo-Pak border of Ganga Nagar district;

(b) if so, the number of persons arrested during last three months and the quantity of arms seized from them; and

(c) the steps being taken to check such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) It is true that attempts have been made to smuggle arms and ammunition in India from Pakistan on Indo-Pak border of Ganganagar District.

(b) The number of persons arrested during the last three months and the quantity arms seized from them is as under:-

	Number of persons arrested	:	100	
	Quantity of Arms seized			
i)	AK-56 Rifles	:	34	Nos.
ii)	Magazine assorted	:	142	Nos.
iii)	Pistol	:	06	Nos.
iv)	Grenade launcher	:	01	No.

(c) With a view to prevent smuggling, border forces have been strengthened both in force, and in equipment and weaponary. Border fencing and flood-lighting is being done in specified areas. The intelligence set up of the border forces have been geared up and further strengthened for keeping close surveillance on the border.

[*Translation*]

Telephones to Panchayats in Backward Districts of U.P.

623. SHRIPANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to provide telephone services on high priority to Gram Panchayats of the most backward districts like Maharajganj, Gorakhpur etc; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as under:-

Stats As on 31-10-1991

	Gorakhpur District	*Maharajganj District*
No. of Telephone Exchanges working as on 31-3-1991	15	11
No. of Panchayat Villages covered with telephone facility during 1991-92	74	63

The remaining Panchyat Villages in these Districts have been planned to be covered with telephone facility by 31st March, 1995.

Post Offices in Panchayats in the Country

624. SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to open post offices in various panchayats in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to give priority to the districts of Eastern Uttar Pradesh i.e. Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoriya, Gonda, etc; and

(c) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Post offices in rural areas are opened keeping in view financial, distance and population norms prescribed for the purpose. Panchayat Headquarters are given preference for opening of post offices subject to fulfilment of these norms.

(b) and (c). While no priority as such is being accorded to the Districts of Eastern U.P. In the matter of opening of Post Ofices, it is, however, proposed to open the following number post offices at Maharajganj, Gorakhpur, Deoria and Gonda during the current year 1991-92.

Maharajganj	-	6
Gorakhpur	-	9
Deoria	-	20
Gonda	-	14

Terrorist Activities in Foothills Areas of Uttar Pradesh

625. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh Government had asked for Central Security forces from centre to combat the increasing terrorist activities in the foothill areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the extent of security forces sought by the Government of Uttar Pradesh and when these were asked for;

(c) the number of groups of para-military forces sent by the Union Government; and

(d) whether the State Government have sent any other scheme to the centre to